

Probe Charge Hall Aids Tried Intimidation of Witnesses for State

By LEO J. CASEY

GRAPHIC Staff Correspondent

SOMERVILLE, N. J., Sept. 24.—Investigation of efforts by defense operatives to discredit the state's case in which—it is alleged—intimidation was employed, occupied the attention of Senator Simpson's corps of detectives working on the Hall-Mills case here today.

These efforts, according to Capt. J. J. Walsh, in charge during the absence of Inspector John W. Underwood, who is in conference with Stimson in Jersey City, involved questioning of William Whitaker, once employed as a farmhand by Mrs. Jane Gibson, and an attempt to force Mrs. Lawrence Latson, Whitaker's landlady, to "sign a paper."

Whitaker Approached

"We have learned that on Tuesday, September 21, a man, who re-



J. W. Underwood Mrs. Jane Gibson

fused to give his name, visited Whitaker, who is now boarding with Mrs. Latson in New Brunswick," Walsh declared.

"Whitaker was once employed

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Mrs. Hall Denies Rumor She Is A Suicide

By GRAPHIC Staff Correspondent

SOMERVILLE, Sept. 24.—To Mrs. Frances Stevens Hall early this morning came the opportunity to deny a report that she had committed suicide.

Somerville and state police headquarters here seethed with rumors that Mrs. Hall had hanged herself.

A reporter at once called the Hall mansion on the telephone. A woman, calm voiced and pleasant, answered.

"There's a report at police headquarters that Mrs. Hall has killed herself," the reporter began. "I'm a newspaper man and—"

There was a low laugh.

"Why, this is Mrs. Hall," the woman broke in, "and I am very well."

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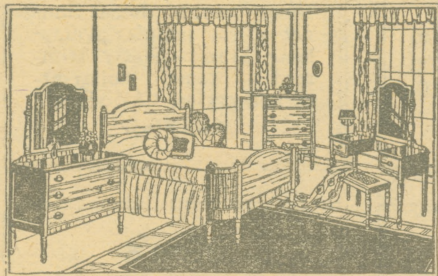
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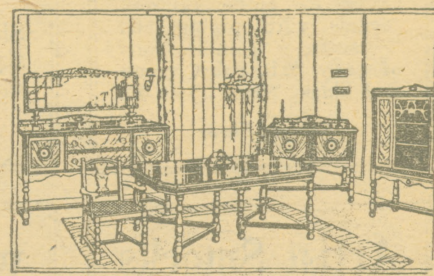
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